

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

SEATTLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 3755 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98124-3755

April 14, 2008

Operations Division/Technical Support Branch Dredged Material Management Office

Dear Interested Party:

The Cooperative Sediment Management Program (CSMP) will hold its twentieth annual review of sediment management issues on May 14, 2008. This Sediment Management Annual Review Meeting (SMARM) will be hosted by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Federal Center South, Galaxy Conference Room, 4735 East Marginal Way South, Seattle, Washington, (see **Enclosure 1** for map and directions). A draft agenda (**Enclosure 2**) outlines the topics that the Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP) agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Washington Departments of Ecology and Natural Resources) and the Washington Department of Ecology's Sediment Management Standards (SMS) program are presenting at the meeting.

The DMMP agencies have been engaged in a Public Stakeholder outreach effort over the past seven months to develop a framework for regulating dioxin/furans in dredged material in Puget Sound. The DMMP agencies will report on the status of that work at the SMARM.

Additionally, a number of papers outlining issues and management actions identified by the DMMP agencies and SMS program for discussion at the SMARM are posted on Seattle District's website (see **Annual Review Meeting**). The papers which will be presented at the SMARM include a number of status reports regarding ongoing DMMP and joint DMMP/SMS actions. Issue papers are proposals for program changes to the DMMP program that require public notification and agency head approval. Several additional clarification papers and status reports will not be presented at the SMARM, but time has been set aside to allow public comments on these papers. See **Enclosure 3** for a complete list of clarification papers and status reports posted on the Seattle District website.

The DMMP Biennial Report for dredging years 2006/2007 has been completed and posted to Seattle District's website (see **Biennial Report for dredging years 2006/2007**). The report reviews sediment sampling, testing and disposal for dredging projects in the Puget Sound region, Grays Harbor/Willapa Bay and the Washington side of the lower Columbia River. It also summarizes all monitoring activities conducted in 2006 and 2007.

You are invited to submit additional issues for consideration and discussion at the meeting. If you submit an issue, it should include a clear statement of the issue, why it should be considered at this time, and the alternatives or options for its resolution. Please submit any issues to the Seattle District Dredged Material Management Office (DMMO) by either email or mail by May 1, 2008 so that we may adjust the agenda accordingly. Only topics submitted prior to this deadline will be considered for inclusion on the Final SMARM agenda to be posted on DMMO website on May 2, 2008.

A summary of the 2007 SMARM proceedings and agencies' responses to issues raised at the SMARM and in post-SMARM comment letters can be found on Seattle District's website.

(http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/PublicMenu documents/DMMO/2007/SM/ARM-FIN/M_pdf)

Please extend this invitation to any person(s) you feel would be interested in attending. Thank you for your interest and involvement in the DMMP and SMS review processes. If you have questions, please contact the Corps of Engineers' Dredged Material Management Office at (206) 764-3768 or the Department of Ecology at (360) 407-6914 for assistance.

Sincerely,

Wayne Wagner

Acting Chief, Operations Division

Seattle District Corps of Engineers

James Pendowski Program Manager

Toxics Cleanup Program

Washington State Department of Ecology

Enclosures